IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Previously presented) A method of analyzing a subject sample for a plurality of subject-derived markers selected to distinguish amongst a plurality of cardiovascular disorders, comprising:

(a) assaying said sample for the presence or amount of one or more subject-derived markers related to blood pressure regulation, and for the presence or amount of one or more subject-derived markers related to myocardial injury, and

(b) characterizing said subject's risk of having developed or of developing each of said plurality of cardiovascular disorders based upon the presence or amount of the markers assayed in step (a), wherein the amount of one or more of the markers assayed in step (a) is not compared to a predetermined threshold amount.

2. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said characterization step (b) is performed without comparing the amount of any of the markers assayed in step (a) to a predetermined threshold amount.

3. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said subject-derived marker(s) related to blood pressure regulation are selected from the group consisting of B-type natriuretic peptide, a marker related to B-type natriuretic peptide, C-type natriuretic factor, urotensin II, arginine vasopressin, aldosterone, angiotensin I, angiotensin II, angiotensin III, bradykinin, calcitonin, procalcitonin, calcitonin gene related peptide, adrenomedullin, calcyphosine, endothelin-2, endothelin-3, rennin, A-type natriuretic peptide, and urodilatin, and wherein said subject-derived marker(s) related to myocardial injury are selected from the group consisting of free cardiac troponin I, free cardiac troponin T, cardiac troponin I in a complex comprising one or both of troponin T and troponin C, cardiac troponin T in a complex comprising one or both of troponin I and troponin C, free and complexed cardiac troponin I, free and complexed cardiac troponin T, creatine kinase-MB, myoglobin, glycogen phosphorylase-BB, annexin B, β-enolase, heart-type fatty acid binding protein, and S-100ao.

4. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 3, wherein said method comprises assaying said sample for the presence or amount of B-type natriuretic peptide or a marker related to B-type natriuretic peptide, and assaying said sample for the presence or amount of creatine kinase-MB, total cardiac troponin I, and myoglobin.

5. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said assaying step (a) further comprises assaying said sample for the presence or amount of one or more subject-derived markers related to inflammation.

6. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 5, wherein said characterization step (b) is performed without comparing the amount of any of said marker(s) related to inflammation to a predetermined threshold amount.

7. (Original) A method according to claim 5, wherein said marker(s) related to inflammation are selected from the group consisting of C-reactive protein, an interleukin, interleukin-1 receptor agonist, CD54, CD106, monocyte chemotactic protein-1, caspase-3, lipocalin-type prostaglandin D synthase, mast cell tryptase, eosinophil cationic protein, KL-6, haptoglobin, tumor necrosis factor α, tumor necrosis factor β, fibronectin, and vascular endothelial growth factor.

8. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 7, wherein said assaying step (a) comprises assaying said sample for the presence or amount of B-type natriuretic peptide or a marker related to B-type natriuretic peptide, and assaying said sample for the presence or amount of creatine kinase-MB, total cardiac troponin I, myoglobin, and C-reactive protein.

9. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said assaying step (a) further comprises assaying said sample for the presence or amount of one or more subject-derived markers related to coagulation and hemostasis.

10. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 9, wherein said characterization step (b) is performed without comparing the amount of any of said marker(s) related to coagulation and hemostasis to a predetermined threshold amount.

11. (Original) A method according to claim 9, wherein said subject-derived marker(s) related to coagulation and hemostasis are selected from the group consisting of plasmin, fibrinogen, D-dimer, β-thromboglobulin, platelet factor 4, fibrinopeptide A, platelet-derived growth factor, prothrombin fragment 1+2, plasmin-α2-antiplasmin complex, thrombin-antithrombin III complex, P-selectin, thrombin, von Willebrand factor, tissue factor, and thrombus precursor protein.

12. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 11, wherein said assaying step (a) comprises assaying said sample for the presence or amount of B-type natriuretic peptide or a marker related to B-type natriuretic peptide, and assaying said sample for the presence or amount of D-dimer, creatine kinase-MB, total cardiac troponin I, and myoglobin.

13. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 5, wherein said assaying step (a) further comprises assaying said sample for the presence or amount of a subject-derived marker related to coagulation and hemostasis.

14. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 13, wherein said assaying step (a) comprises assaying said sample for the presence or amount of B-type natriuretic peptide or a marker related to B-type natriuretic peptide, and assaying said sample for the presence or amount of D-dimer, creatine kinase-MB, total cardiac troponin I, myoglobin, and C-reactive protein.

15. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said test sample is selected from the group consisting of a blood sample, a serum sample, and a plasma sample.

16. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said plurality of cardiovascular disorders are selected from the group consisting of myocardial infarction, congestive heart failure, acute coronary syndrome, unstable angina, and pulmonary embolism.

17. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said characterization step (b) comprises comparing at least one marker amount to a predetermined threshold level.

18-36. (Cancelled)

37. (Previously presented) A method of analyzing a subject sample for a plurality of subject-derived markers, comprising:

(a) assaying said sample for the presence or amount of a plurality of markers, one of which is B-type natriuretic peptide or a marker related to B-type natriuretic peptide, and another of which is free cardiac troponin I, free cardiac troponin T, cardiac troponin I in a complex comprising one or both of troponin T and troponin C, cardiac troponin T in a complex comprising one or both of troponin I and troponin C, free and complexed cardiac troponin I, or free and complexed cardiac troponin T; and

(b) characterizing said subject's risk of having developed or of developing one or more of myocardial infarction and congestive heart failure based upon the presence or amount of the markers assayed in step (a), wherein the amount of one or more of the markers assayed in step (a) is not compared to a predetermined threshold amount.

38. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 38, wherein said assaying step (a) further comprises assaying said sample for the presence or amount of D-dimer, and wherein said characterizing step (b) comprises characterizing said subject's risk of having developed or of developing one or more of myocardial infarction, congestive heart failure, and pulmonary embolism based upon the presence or amount of the markers assayed in step (a), wherein the amount of one or more of the markers assayed in step (a) is not compared to a predetermined threshold amount.